

REMARKS

This paper is filed pursuant to the Office Communication mailed on March 3, 2005, in which the Examiner requested correction of two errors in the claims filed in the Amendment of December 3, 2004. The Examiner specifically requested that all amended claims be marked in comparison to the version of the claims that were examined in the Office Action of April 13, 2004. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a set of replacement claims in which all amendments are marked in comparison to the version of the claims submitted in the Amendment of May 21, 2003. The enclosed set of replacement claims are the same as those filed in the Amendment of December 3, 2004 with the exception that claims 47 and 48 have been further amended to correct the errors identified by the Examiner. Thus, the replacement claims submitted herein replace those filed in the Amendment of December 3, 2004, and should be considered with the Remarks made in the Amendments of December 3, 2004 and October 12, 2004.

The Office Communication pointed out that text appeared to have been deleted from claim 47, but that this deleted text was not shown or marked as required by 37 CFR 1.121. By this paper claim 47 has been further amended so that it now correctly shows the text that has been deleted, marked in comparison to the version of the claims submitted in the Amendment of May 21, 2003. The Office Communication also pointed out that the terms “engages” and “receptor” in claim 48 lacked antecedent basis, as these terms were not recited in amended claim 47. By this paper claim 48 has been amended to correct this deficiency. The changes to claim 48 are marked in comparison to the version of the claims submitted in the Amendment of May 21, 2003.

The Office Communication also asked that the remaining claims be checked to ensure that all deletions and additions are marked correctly in comparison to the previously presented versions, and to check for any other errors in antecedent basis. Applicants have carefully checked the remaining claims. The remaining claims are all correctly amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121, and the amendments are correctly marked in comparison to the version of the claims submitted in the Amendment of May 21, 2003. All claim terms have the correct antecedent basis.

Thus, in comparison to the version of the claims submitted in the Amendment of May 21, 2003, claims 47, 48, 55, 56, 61, 63, and 65 are amended, claims 53-54, 57-60, 64, and 62-72 are

cancelled, and new claims 73 and 74 are added, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel. No new matter is added. It is submitted that the claims, herewith and as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art, and that these claims are and were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks and amendments herewith the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The undersigned looks forward to hearing favorably from the Examiner at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,
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